IV.—MOTION TO DISPENSE WITH QUESTION-HOUR ON THE 20TH JANUARY 1961.

DR. A. LAKSHMANASWAMI MUDALIAR : Sir, I move—

' That this House resolves that, under rule 22 of the Madras Council Rules, the question-hour be dispensed with for this day only '.

SRI MOHAMED RAZA KHAN : I second the motion, Sir.

MR. CHAIRMAN : The question is—

' That this House resolves that, under rule 22 of the Madras Council Rules, the question-hour be dispensed with for this day only '.

The motion was put and carried unanimously.

V.—GOVERNMENT BUSINESS.

PRESENTATION OF SECOND SUPPLEMENTARY ESTIMATE OF EXPENDITURE FOR 1960–61.

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM : Sir, I rise to present the Second Supplementary Statement of demands for grants for further expenditure in 1960–61. The detailed explanatory statement is placed on the table of the House.

The supplementary demand before the House is for a total sum of Rs. 6.12 crores. Out of this, a demand of Rs. 2.59 crores is on the revenue account and a demand of Rs. 3·30 crores on the capital account and the balance of Rs. 23 lakhs under " Loans and Advances ".

The House is aware that we have been able to achieve the targets under all heads of development in the Second Plan and exceed some of them, largely on account of the continuous process of review and reappropriation, to meet the growing tempo of Plan outlay. The current year being the last year of the Second Plan, there is an increase in Plan expenditure under many heads and we have also to take up the preliminary work in respect of Third Plan schemes. This trend is reflected in the present supplementary estimates.

The District Boards other than Thanjavur are being given consolidated net cost grants for Primary and Secondary Education. On the basis of their actual requirements, it is now found that an additional amount of Rs. 40 lakhs for Primary Education and Rs. 35 lakhs for Secondary Education is required. Similar net cost grants have to be given for the first batch of 75 Panchayat Unions for Primary Education and a sum of Rs. 40 lakhs has been asked for, for this purpose. Members would have participated in the inauguration of the first batch of 75 Panchayat Unions on 2nd October 1960. This is a major reform for which only a token amount had been provided under various heads while finalising the budget. The present supplementary demand includes a provision of Rs. 21 lakhs for the construction of buildings to house the offices and meeting halls of the first batch of 75 Panchayat Unions in the current year. A Block Planning Officer has been sanctioned

for each of the 375 Blocks with which the State has been delimited. Staff has been sanctioned for the Panchayat Unions and for the Collectors' Offices. In keeping with the tempo of work to be undertaken in the Panchayat Union areas, special staff has been sanctioned to the Highways Department. All these provisions will be found in this supplementary estimate under the appropriate demands. Linked up with the Panchayat reform is the long awaited increase in the emoluments of village officers about which several Members spoke when I presented the first supplementary estimates before this House for the Pay Commission expenditure. We have sanctioned an ad hoc increase of Rs. 2 or Rs. 3 to thalayaries, Rs. 5 or Rs. 7 to the Village Headmen and Rs. 10 or 12 to Karnams according as they hold a light charge or a normal charge. A Karnam who discharges the function of Secretary to the Village Panchayat is given an additional remuneration of
3-10 p.m. Rs. 2 or Rs. 3 as the case may be. This increase has been made applicable to all Village Officers in the State from 1st January 1961.

The significant provisions reflecting the increase in the tempo of Plan expenditure are as follows : Rs. 12 lakhs under Medical and Public Health reflecting the increase in bed strength in hospitals and in the number of admissions to Medical Colleges and the progress of the National Malaria Eradication Programme.

Under Agriculture, a provision of Rs. 4 lakhs has been made for the Package Programme which is being implemented in 23 Blocks in the Thanjavur district. Another important item under Agriculture is the scheme for sinking of 425 sub-artesian wells in ten districts of the State.

Under Harijan Welfare, an additional amount of Rs. 10 lakhs has been asked for, for scholarships.

Two important items representing preliminary works on Third Plan schemes are a provision of Rs. one lakh for investigation to be undertaken for the Iron and Steel Plant at Salem and a provision of Rs. 3 lakhs under Civil Works for the preparation of plans and estimates in respect of road and bridge works to be undertaken in the Third Plan.

An item of expenditure that has arisen from the general debate in this House on the Budget for 1960–61, is the grant of Rs. 15 lakhs and loan of Rs. 15 lakhs to the City Corporation. This represents a special assistance to the Corporation in the current year for the improved surfacing of specified stretches of Mount Road, Poonamallee High Road, other important roads like the Body Guard Road and the road from General Hospital to Parry's Corner as well as certain important bus routes. The improved surfacing of these roads will be done in such a manner that they will last without repairs for the next 10 or 15 years. This assistance has, in a large measure, helped in the immediate difficulties consequent on the recent heavy rains.

The most significant item of capital expenditure for which an increased appropriation is asked for is the Parambikulam-Aliyar Project. The demand for further expenditure on this project in the

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current year is Rs. 1.37 crores over and above the budget provision of Rs. one crore. Out of the seven major dams covered by the project, work has been started on five major dams and appreciable progress has already been made on the Aliyar Dam. Work on excavating foundations for Sholiar, Tirumurthi and Parambikulam Dams has been taken up and is in good progress. Construction of camps and buildings at Parambikulam, Tunacadavu, Topslip, Vettaikaranpudur, Pollachi and Tirumurthinagar have been all completed and occupied. Building camps at Sholiar and Valparai is in progress.

The Reserve Bank of India has recently sanctioned a sum of Rs. 65 lakhs for participation in the share capital of Madras State Co-operative Bank, District Co-operative Central Banks and Co-operative Agricultural Banks. A demand has been made for the consequent expenditure in share capital participation though it does not involve any net outgo from the State's funds. Under Road Transport, an additional amount of Rs. 30 lakhs has been asked for to put through the current year's programme of 123 vehicles for the Madras Branch and 34 vehicles for the Kanyakumari Branch. One other significant item is an additional appropriation of Rs. 35 lakhs towards compensation to zamindars. This reflects the satisfactory progress in settlement operations which are expected to come to an end in 1962–63.

Under "Loans and Advances", apart from the loan of Rs. 15 lakhs to the Corporation of Madras for the improved surfacing of main roads, we have asked for an additional appropriation of Rs. 5 lakhs for the Subsidised Industrial Housing Scheme.

Sir, with these few words, I now commend the second supplementary estimates to the House with the confidence that the House will welcome and accept these items of expenditure.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I now adjourn the House as a mark of respect to the memory of the late Sri Kuppuswami Mudaliar. The House will meet again tomorrow, the 21st January at 3 p.m.

The House then adjourned.

VI.—PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE OF THE HOUSE.

* 1. *Notification issued with G.O. Ms. No.* 2847, *Revenue, dated* 13th *July* 1960, *regarding amendments to the Tiruchirappalli Kaieruvaram and Mattuvaram Rules*, 1959.

* 2 *Notification issued with G.O. Ms. No.* 3423, *Industries, Labour and Co-operation, dated* 13th *July* 1960, *regarding exclusion of the Madras Industrial Investment Corporation, Limited, from the scope of the Madras Money-Lenders Act*, 1957 (*Madras Act XXVI of* 1957).

* 3 *and* 4. *Notifications issued with G.O. Ms. Nos.* 1273 *and* 1274, *L.A., dated* 27*th July* 1960, *regarding constitution of Panchayat Unions for Tiruvadanai and Kariapatti Blocks in East and West Ramanathapuram Development districts respectively.*